

Appln. No. 09/770,577
Amdt. dated April 11, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Jan. 10, 2005
Docket No. 6169-145

IBM Docket No. BOC9-1999-0092

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a speech recognition system disposed within a portable computing device, a method of completing user input comprising:

(a) receiving a user input, said user input specifying at least one character corresponding to at least one recognizable word selection of said speech recognition system of said portable computing device;

(b) comparing said user input with a set of selections in said speech recognition system;

(c) comparing the set of selections against a threshold value representing a maximum number of selections that the portable computing device is able to process within a desired period of time;

when the set of selections favorably compares with the threshold value, limiting said set of selections to an available set of selections which correspond to said specified at least one character;

receiving a user spoken utterance; and,

matching said received user spoken utterance with a selection in said available set of selections.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, when the set of selections exceeds the threshold value, said method further comprising the steps of:

prompting for additional user input; and

performing steps (a), (b), and (c) using additional input received responsive to the

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prompting step.

~~further comprising repetitively performing steps (a), (b), and (c) of claim 1 until said available set of selections is consistent with predetermined selection criteria.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
notifying a user when said available set of selections is consistent with
predetermined selection criteria using at least one of an audio prompt and a physical
prompt of vibrating the portable computing device.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one
character specifies a text word or phrase.

6. (Currently Amended) In a speech recognition system disposed within a
portable computing device, a method of completing user input comprising:

(a) receiving a user input, said user input specifying at least one character
corresponding to at least one recognizable word selection of said speech recognition
system of said portable computing device;

(b) comparing said user input with a set of selections in said speech recognition
system;

(c) comparing the set of selections against a threshold value representing a
maximum number of selections that the portable computing device is able to process
within a desired period of time;

repetitively performing steps (a), (b), and (c) until the set of selections favorably
compares with the threshold value ~~said available set of selections is consistent with~~

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~~predetermined selection criteria;~~

when the set of selections favorably compares with the threshold value, limiting said set of selections to an available set of selections which correspond to said received user input;

~~repetitively performing steps (a), (b), and (c) until said available set of selections is consistent with predetermined selection criteria;~~

when the set of selections favorably compares with the threshold value, notifying a user ~~when said available set of selections is consistent with predetermined selection criteria;~~

responsive to said notifying step, configuring said portable user device to receive a user spoken utterance that is to be speech recognized using the available set of selections;

subsequent to said configuring step, receiving a user spoken utterance; and,

matching said received user spoken utterance with a selection in said available set of selections.

7. (Currently Amended) A system disposed within a portable computing device for completing user input comprising:

a buffer for receiving one or more user inputs and one or more user spoken utterances;

a set of recognizable word selections for comparing with said user spoken utterance;

a threshold value representing a maximum number of selections that the portable computing device is able to process within a desired period of time, wherein spoken utterances are speech recognized by said portable computing device only when the set of recognizable word selections favorably compares to the threshold value;

a limiter for filtering said set of recognizable word selections to an available set of

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recognizable word selections based upon said user inputs, each said user input specifying at least one character corresponding to at least one recognizable word selection of a speech recognition system of said portable computing device; and,

a speech recognition engine for processing said user spoken utterances to match a received user spoken utterance with only said available set of recognizable word selections.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein said at least one character specifies a text word or phrase.

9. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

(a) receiving a user input, said user input specifying at least one character corresponding to at least one recognizable word selection of a speech recognition system disposed within a portable computing device;

(b) comparing said user input with a set of selections in said speech recognition system;

(c) comparing the set of selections against a threshold value representing a maximum number of selections that the portable computing device is able to process within a desired period of time;

when the set of selections favorably compares with the threshold value, limiting said set of selections to an available set of selections which correspond to said specified at least one character;

receiving a user spoken utterance; and,

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matching said received user spoken utterance with a selection in said available set of selections.

10. (Currently Amended) The machine readable storage of claim 9, further causing said machine to perform the steps of:

prompting for additional user input; and

performing steps (a), (b), and (c) using additional input received responsive to the prompting step, wherein said prompting and performing steps are executed when the set of selections exceeds the threshold value.

~~further comprising repetitively performing steps (a), (b), and (c) of claim 1 until said available set of selections is consistent with predetermined selection criteria.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The machine readable storage of claim 9, further comprising:

notifying a user when said available set of selections is consistent with predetermined selection criteria using at least one of an audio prompt and a physical prompt of vibrating the portable computing device.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said at least one character specifies a text word or phrase.

14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said threshold value is based upon the processing power of the portable computing device.

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15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said threshold value is a user programmable value.